

Partnership Opportunity Available

The Montana Governor's Council on Homelessness (www.MTCOH.org) is looking for up to two communities interested in applying for the *Development of Comprehensive Drug/Alcohol and Mental Health Treatment Services for Persons Who are Homeless* grant currently available through SAMHSA. (http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants/2008/ti_08_013.aspx).

The goal of the grant is to link treatment with permanent supportive housing and other services, including primary care, to provide wrap-around care for persons who are homeless, with an emphasis on persons who are chronically homeless and/or homeless returning veterans and their families. If awarded, the grant can provide for a number of services and activities, with an estimated award amount of \$400,000/year for up to five years.

Please note: The State is *not* in competition for these funds. The MTCOH is making a technical assistance/partnership opportunity available in support of enhancing services for homeless persons and improving the local infrastructure around addressing homelessness. Eligible applicants include domestic public and private nonprofit entities, including local governments, federally recognized American Indian tribes and tribal organizations, urban Indian organizations, public or private universities and colleges; and community- and faith-based organizations. Any eligible community entity that wishes to apply independently has the option to do so.

What the MTCOH and its State partners can offer:

- Assistance with writing the proposal.
- Housing vouchers (Shelter + Care and/or HUD/VASH).
- Partnerships with state agencies in support of accomplishing the goals of the grant, including the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division of DPHHS, the Board of Housing, the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs, and the Human and Community Services Division of DPHHS.
- Ongoing technical assistance/partnership in creating the necessary infrastructure to address homelessness at the local level.

What the successful community partner must offer:

- Demonstrated capacity to manage federal funds.
- A good community network that includes agencies experienced with serving homeless persons, including low-income housing, direct treatment for mental health, chemical dependency and co-occurring disorders, Health Care for the Homeless, Urban Indian Centers and/or City/County Health Departments and other agencies providing direct services.
- Commitment to develop the local infrastructure needed to create a comprehensive response to homelessness through integrated services and evidence-based practices.

Deadline

April 25, 2008: There is a very fast turnaround on this grant, so if you are interested in partnering with the MTCOH, please submit a one-page letter via e-mail or fax (443-0869) identifying the proposed grant fiduciary, links or partnerships among community agencies providing housing, treatment and primary care and other homeless services.

Grant due date: Proposals must be submitted electronically to SAMHSA **May 29.**

- Please feel free to share this information with your colleagues or other potential partners.
- For more information, contact Sherrie Downing, MTCOH Coordinator, at Sherrie@MTCOH.org or 443.0580.